

will put Members of Congress on record as recognizing the Armenian genocide. Silence either out of indifference or as the result of political pressure only serves to encourage others who would again use ethnic cleansing as a tool of government.

As the anniversary of the horrific genocide in Armenia approaches, I wish the people of Armenia success in their effort to bring about the lasting peace and prosperity that they deserve, and I ask for Members' support in commemorating the Armenian genocide by co-sponsoring this important legislation.

HONORING ROWAN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA ON ITS 250TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. WATT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the residents of Rowan County, North Carolina, part of which is located in my congressional district, as they celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of their county. Rowan County was founded in 1753, more than 20 years before the American Revolution. Today Rowan County has around 135,000 residents and is a thriving part of North Carolina's Piedmont. Salisbury, the county seat, is known as the hometown of the Food Lion grocery store chain, Cheerwine soft drinks and my new colleague in the Senate, Senator ELIZABETH DOLE. I always look forward to visiting Rowan County and was planning to ride in their parade this afternoon had the House schedule allowed that to happen.

I wish all the best to the Rowan County residents as they gather this weekend to celebrate the Rowan 250 Fest, with the theme of "History's Crossroads"—looking back at Rowan County's rich history and looking forward to a bright future.

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA AWARENESS WEEK

(Mr. MCCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, since its founding in 1946, members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America have visited public forums ranging from the halls of Congress to high schools and scout troops to relate their personal experiences and raise the public's awareness of their cause. In sum, the PVA's efforts ever remind us human suffering is the horror of war and no one more intensely experienced this horror more than our citizen-soldiers who uniquely endure its pains. Thus we, who are free because of these brave citizen-soldiers' sacrifices, must do everything in our power to alleviate and accommodate the pain they bore, and bear, for us.

Mr. Speaker, members of the PVA like my constituent Michael Harris

have been grievously wounded during their armed service for our country, yet still they nobly continue their altruistic service to our country. They are a source of pride and inspiration to our entire Nation. Let us, therefore, join with my home State of Michigan and the PVA and commemorate the week of April 13-19 as Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Week. They deserve much more but certainly no less.

HONORING HARDIN SIMMONS UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. STENHOLM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hardin Simmons University women's basketball team from Abilene, Texas, who have achieved an incredible record including their first undefeated regular season in school history, a fifth straight American Southwest Conference tournament title, and a strong finish in the NCAA Division III tournament. The university community knew this team had a winning chemistry when the Cowgirls won all 24 of their regular season games and their fifth straight ASC tournament title which earned them a spot in the coveted NCAA Division III basketball championship and a number-one ranking in the Nation of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

None of these victories could have been achieved without the incredible teamwork that these 15 young women have demonstrated. One player in particular, Kendra Anderson, has been named the Division III national player of the year, the American Southwest Conference most valuable player for the third straight year, the tournament most valuable player for the fourth straight year and the first-team all-American and all-South Region for the third year. Coach Briggs brings out the best from her players, sharpens their strengths and improves their weaknesses.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize my constituents from Hardin Simmons University.

THE FACTS ON ETHANOL

(Mr. OSBORNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, during last night's debate, there was a great deal said about renewable fuels and particularly about ethanol. Much of this was uninformed and inaccurate. I think some of it was due to the fact that it was based on old research.

One of the comments that was made was that ethanol is not energy efficient, that it takes a lot more energy to produce than what it actually yields. Actually for every Btu of fossil

fuel used, ethanol yields 1.4 Btus of energy. Gasoline for every Btu of energy used yields .8 Btu. MTBE yields about .7 Btu. It is the most energy efficient fuel that we have going at the present time.

Also, ethanol reduces farm payments by \$5.9 billion over 10 years and it adds \$51 billion to the farm economy. It reduces the trade deficit by \$34 billion over 10 years which certainly helps the economy as well, and in 2002 removed 4 million tons of carbon dioxide from the air.

MARKING ANNIVERSARY OF SINKING OF THE "SULTANA", AMERICA'S GREATEST MARITIME DISASTER

(Mr. SNYDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, during our Easter recess, we will pass the anniversary of a tragic historic event in America. We are all familiar with the sinking of the *Titanic* and its loss of 1,522 lives. In fact the greatest American maritime disaster, April 27, 1865, was the sinking of the *Sultana* in a photograph here shown loaded with former POWs on the Mississippi River. One of the boilers on the *Sultana* blew, it sank and lost probably 1,800 mostly Union soldiers that had been released from prisoner of war camps deep in the South.

This tragedy was combined with illegality. This ship was supposed to hold less than 400 people. It was overloaded in violation of law. It pushed out of the Mississippi River at 2 a.m., a boiler blew, it caught on fire as shown in this drawing, and experienced tremendous winds shortly thereafter. Here we can see the thing flips around and the fire pushes people off the other end of the boat. These men were all emaciated former POWs. It was with great, great loss of life. There are two books on the subject, "Disaster on the Mississippi" and "The *Sultana* Tragedy."

Its anniversary was April 27, 1865.

HONORING SERGEANT GEORGE E. BUGGS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant George E. Buggs. This young man grew up in the South Carolina town of Barnwell. After graduating from his local high school in 1990, he decided to become part of something larger than himself by joining the U.S. Army to defend our Nation.

On Saturday, the Pentagon announced that Sergeant Buggs made the ultimate sacrifice for his country during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His body was discovered during the rescue of Private Jessica Lynch along with eight